

Group II - claims 1-13 and 16-27, drawn to a liquid crystal device, liquid crystal apparatus, or liquid crystal composition wherein the liquid crystal material need not be a polymeric discotic liquid crystal formed by polymerization of a polymerizable discotic liquid crystal compound, classified in class 349, subclass 117.

Accordingly, Applicant hereby elects Group II, claims 1-13 and 16-27, drawn to a liquid crystal device, liquid crystal apparatus, or liquid crystal composition wherein the liquid crystal material need not be a polymeric discotic liquid crystal formed by polymerization of a polymerizable discotic liquid crystal compound, classified in class 349, subclass 117. This election is made with traverse, as both Groups I and II relate to a common technical feature, i.e., a specific alignment state of a discotic liquid crystal; both polymeric and non-polymeric discotic liquid crystal may be used to achieve the objects of this invention.

In addition, the Examiner has indicated that Group II contains claims directed to patentably distinct species of the claimed invention, namely the following three species:

Species A, claim 24, drawn to a liquid crystal device with a light absorbing plate behind the device;

Species B, claim 25, drawn to a liquid crystal device with a reflection plate behind the device; and

Species C, claim 26, drawn to a liquid crystal device which is a projection-type device.

Accordingly, Applicant hereby elects Species B, claim 25, drawn to a liquid crystal device with a reflection plate behind the device.

Additionally, the Examiner indicated that Species A, B and C have the following two sub-species:

Sub-Species 1, claim 20, drawn to a liquid crystal device wherein the alignment directors of the discotic liquid crystal and rod-shaped liquid crystal are directed in an identical direction; and

Sub-Species 2, claim 21, drawn to a liquid crystal device wherein the alignment directors of the discotic liquid crystal and rod-shaped liquid crystal are perpendicular.

Accordingly, Applicant hereby elects Sub-Species 1, claim 20, drawn to a liquid crystal device wherein the alignment directors of the discotic liquid crystal and rod-shaped liquid crystal are directed in an identical direction.

Further, all of claims 1-13, 16-20, 22, 23, 25 and 27 read on the elected species.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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